

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (previously presented) A method for operating a network among a plurality of communication devices, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) using a first communication device to perform an inquiry which checks whether or not at least one other communication device is present in the communicable range of the first communication device, and determining the presence of at least one other communication device according to a response to the inquiry; ~~and~~

(b) when there is a response to the inquiry in the step (a), establishing a connection with the network and then, causing the first communication device to change into a role of slave and to receive network information from the master of the network; and

(c) establishing the first communication device as a master of the network and causing the first communication device to store slave information and to broadcast the slave information to other slaves when there is no response to the inquiry in the step (a).

2. (canceled).

3. (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of changing modes of the slaves in the network, after repeating inquiry and page scan when there is no response in the step (a), so that connections to incoming slaves of the network are established.

4. (currently amended): The method of claim 21, further comprising a step of designating a back-up master order at the time of entry into the network in step (b) and broadcasting the back-up master order to other slaves.

5. (currently amended): The method of claim 21, further comprising a step of determining a master according to a designated back-up master order if there is no network master established in step (b).

6. (currently amended): The method of claim 21, further comprising a step of changing the first communication device into a Park mode if the first communication device does not communicate with another device after receiving network information from the network master, receiving information broadcast by the network master, and updating the network information received in step (b).

7. (currently amended): A method for operation a network among a plurality of communication devices, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) using a first communication device to perform a page scan which checks whether or not at least one other communication device is present in the communicable range of the first communication device, and determining the presence of at least one other communication device according to a response to the page scan; and

(b) when there is at least one other communication device, establishing the first communication device as a master of the network,

wherein the first communication device broadcasts slave information to at least one new device entering the network substantially soon after said at least one new device enters the network.

8. (canceled).

9. (new): A method for operating a network among a plurality of communication devices, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) using a first communication device to perform an inquiry which checks whether or not at least one other communication device is present in the communicable range of the first communication device, and determining the presence of at least one other communication device according to a response to the inquiry;

(b) when there is a response to the inquiry in the step (a), establishing a connection with the network and then, causing the first communication device to change into a role of slave and to receive network information from the master of the network; and

(c) designating a back-up master order at the time of entry into the network in step (b) and broadcasting the back-up master order to other slaves.

10. (new): A method for operating a network among a plurality of communication devices, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) using a first communication device to perform an inquiry which checks whether or not at least one other communication device is present in the communicable range of the first communication device, and determining the presence of at least one other communication device according to a response to the inquiry;

(b) when there is a response to the inquiry in the step (a), establishing a connection with the network and then, causing the first communication device to change into a role of slave and to receive network information from the master of the network; and

(c) determining a master according to a designated back-up master order if there is no network master established in step (b).

11. (new): A method for operating a network among a plurality of communication devices, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) using a first communication device to perform an inquiry which checks whether or not at least one other communication device is present in the communicable range of the first communication device, and determining the presence of at least one other communication device according to a response to the inquiry;

(b) when there is a response to the inquiry in the step (a), establishing a connection with the network and then, causing the first communication device to change into a role of slave and to receive network information from the master of the network; and

(c) changing the first communication device into a Park mode if the first communication device does not communicate with another device after receiving network information from the network master, receiving information broadcast by the network master, and updating the network information received in step (b).